



# Fire Extinguishers

Seattle Fire Department Fire Prevention Division

## Choose the Right Extinguisher

It is important to choose the proper fire extinguisher for each fire. Fire extinguishers are labeled with letters and/or pictograms to indicate the type of fire on which the extinguisher is effective.

### Ordinary Combustibles Fire



**A** - paper, wood, many plastics, fabric, rubber, trash

### Flammable Liquids Fire



**B** - gasoline, oil, grease, some paints and solvents

### Electrical Fire



**C** - energized electrical equipment; appliances, computers, circuit breakers, wiring

**BC & ABC** - Combination extinguishers can be used on two or more different types of fires.

## Remember the P.A.S.S. Word

There are four basic steps to using a fire extinguisher.

### Pull



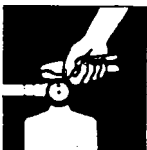
Pull the safety pin by grabbing the ring and twisting

### Aim



Aim the hose at the base of the fire

### Squeeze



Squeeze the handle

### Sweep



Sweep the hose from side to side while discharging

### Get Out



If the fire gets bigger, close the door to slow the spread of heat and smoke and evacuate

## Be Prepared!

Training and practice are the best ways to prepare for emergencies. Make certain you know the P.A.S.S. system and understand how to safely use a fire extinguisher before you ever need to.

- ☑ Don't force yourself to fight a fire that makes you uncomfortable or puts you at risk.
- ☑ Always let someone know and make certain 911 has been called before using an extinguisher on a fire.
- ☑ Fire extinguishers are small quick fixes. If you are unable to put out the fire with one extinguisher, leave and close the door behind you.
- ☑ A fire involving any portion of building structure is too big for a portable fire extinguisher.
- ☑ While using a fire extinguisher stay low, the smoke is filled with carbon monoxide and many other toxic gases.
- ☑ Don't let the fire come between you and your exit. Keep your back to the exit and the fire in front of you.

